

CHINA

THE



MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL. XXXIII. No. 4375.

號十月七十七百八千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1877.

日十三月五年丑丁

PPICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill, GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C., BATES, HENRY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E.C., SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 160 & 164, Leadenhall Street.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

CHINA.—Sexton, QUELCH & CAMPBELL, Amoy, WILSON, NICHOLLS & CO., Foochow, HEDGES & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WAKE, Manila, C. HEINRICH & CO., Macao, L. A. DA GRADA.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL,...5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND,...500,000 Dollars.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—H. HOFFMUS, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—F. D. SAMSOON, Esq.
E. R. BELLIOR, Esq. WILHELM REINER, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. ED. TORIN, Esq.
Hon. W. KESWICK, Esq.
A. MCIVER, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
Manager.

Shanghai, EWAN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED
ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits :—
For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East,
Hongkong, March 29, 1876.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,
AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

CAPITAL,...£800,000.
RESERVE FUND,...£110,000.

BANKERS.
THE BANK OF ENGLAND,
THE CITY BANK,
THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.

THE BANK'S BRANCH in HONGKONG grants Drafts on London and the Chief Commercial places in Europe and the East; buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange; and conducts all kinds of Banking and Exchange Business.

Local Bills discounted, and Interest allowed on Current Accounts and on Deposits for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.
M. WILHELM CARL ENGEL BRECHT von PUSTAU, Junior, and Mr. CONRAD MUNROE DONNER, have been admitted Partners in our Firm from the First of January, 1877.

W.M. PUSTAU & Co.,
Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai,
Hongkong, April 16, 1877.

NOTICE.
FROM This Date Mr. EDWARD SHEPPARD and Mr. M. W. GREEN, are authorized to sign the name of our Firm per Procuratum at Foochow, and Mr. F. E. EWELL at Amoy.

RUSSELL & Co.,
China, June 1, 1877.

NOTICE.
M. R. F. C. DITTMER is authorized to sign our Firm per Procuratum.

GANDER & Co.,
Hongkong, June 23, 1877.

NOTICE.
M. R. EDWARD BURKE will conduct the BUSINESS of my Office, during my Temporary Absence from the Colony.

R. H. CAIRNS,
Surveyor to Local Offices,
and Lloyd's Register of Shipping,
2, Club Chambers,
Hongkong, March 17, 1877.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

M. R. D. MOSS and Mr. H. JOHNSTON have This Day been ADMITTED PARTNERS in the Firm of THOS. HOWARD & CO., Merchants, London and Hongkong.

THOS. HOWARD & CO.,
Hongkong, July 9, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has been Appointed AGENT at this Port for THE POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

W. H. NOTLEY,
Hongkong, June 6, 1877.

NOTICE.

B Y Mutual Consent, the Firm of FREEBRIES, RODATZ & CO., has been DISSOLVED on This Day.

R. FREEBRIES,
G. C. F. RODATZ,
Hongkong, June 20, 1877.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day Established myself as SHIPBROKER.

ROBERT DROSS,
Hongkong, June 25, 1877.

For Sale.

AERATED WATERS,
IN
Codd's PATENT GLASS STOP-
PERED BOTTLES.

FROM the 1st July, the Price of all kinds of AERATED WATERS will be only

FORTY CENTS Per Dozen.

SARSAF ARILLA WATER,
75 Cents per Dozen.
ED. CHASTEL,
2, Wyndham Street, opposite the HONGKONG CLUB.

Hongkong, June 30, 1877.

FOR SALE.

CUTLER, R. PALMER & CO.'s
Celebrated

Brands of WINES and SPIRITS.
Apply to SIEMSEN & CO.,
Hongkong, June 22, 1877.

FOR SALE.

POLLINARIS WATER, in Cases of 50 Large Stone Bottles, \$9 per Case.

WIELER & CO.,
Hongkong, July 4, 1877.

NOW READY.

A CHINESE DICTIONARY IN THE CANTONESE DIALECT. Part I, A to K, with Introduction. Royal 8vo, pp. 202.—By ERNEST JOHN ETTEL, Ph.D., Tübingen.

Price Two DOLLARS AND A HALF.
To be had from MESSRS LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Hongkong and Shanghai; and MESSRS KELLY & WALK, Shanghai.
Hongkong, February 8, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned regret to inform their Customers, that in consequence of the VERY GREAT ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF FLOUR, they will be compelled TO RAISE the Price of their First Quality BREAD One Cent per Pound, Commencing from the 1st July, 1877.

HONGKONG AND CHINA BAKERY CO., LIMITED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., General Managers.
DORABEEJEE NOWROOZEE,
Hongkong, June 21, 1877.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE Twenty-second Ordinary Half-Yearly MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be Held at the Office of the Company, No. 80 A, Queen's Road, on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd July instant, at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon, for the purpose of Receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend, and electing Directors and Auditors.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
P. A. DA COSTA,
Secretary.

Hongkong, July 8, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. F. C. DITTMER is authorized to sign our Firm per Procuratum.

GANDER & Co.,
Hongkong, June 23, 1877.

NOTICE.

M. R. EDWARD BURKE will conduct the BUSINESS of my Office, during my Temporary Absence from the Colony.

R. H. CAIRNS,
Surveyor to Local Offices,
and Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

2, Club Chambers,
Hongkong, March 17, 1877.

Intimations.

NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS will be Received by the Undersigned, until Noon on SATURDAY, the 14th Instant, for building a FIRE ENGINE HOUSE, at H. M. NAVAL YARD.

Plan and Specification may be seen and further information obtained on Application.

JOHN BREMNER,
Naval Storekeeper.

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Eleventh Ordinary MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be Held at the Head Office, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 31st Instant, at 3 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors, and Statement of Accounts to 30th April last, and of declaring Dividends.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 17th to 31st Instant, both days inclusive.

By Order, W. H. RAY,
Secretary.

Hongkong, July 8, 1877.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Undersigned, Establishing themselves This Day as SHIPHANDLERS and GENERAL STOREKEEPERS under the Style and Firm of RODATZ & CO., have taken over the BUSINESS of the late Firm of FREEBRIES, RODATZ & CO., G. C. F. RODATZ,
K. KOCH.

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day Established myself as SHIPBROKER.

ROBERT DROSS,
Hongkong, June 25, 1877.

NOTICE.

THE Extraordinary MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be Held at the Head Office, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 31st Instant, at 3.30 p.m., in order to take into consideration a Special Resolution to add a Regulation to the existing Articles of Association of the Company, authorizing the Company so far to modify the conditions contained in its Memorandum of Association, as by subdivision of its existing Shares to divide its Capital into Shares of smaller amount than is fixed by its Memorandum of Association, in accordance with the provisions of Sections XX and XXI of "The Company's Ordinance 1877."

By Order, W. H. RAY,
Secretary.

Hongkong, July 9, 1877.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been Appointed AGENTS of the above Company at HONGKONG and FOOCHEW, are prepared to accept Risks and Issue Policies by any First-Class Steamers, at current rates, Payable either here, in LONDON, or LIVERPOOL, or at the principal Ports of INDIA and the EAST.

BIRLEY & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, May 21, 1877.

NOTICE.

MRS. G. B. FALCONER, Widow and Administratrix of the late G. B. FALCONER (sole and only Partner of the Firm of GEORGE FALCONER & CO., Watch Manufacturers, Jewellers, &c., &c., Hongkong), and MR. MATTHEW FALCONER, Brother of the Deceased, beg respectfully to intimate that they have agreed to CONTINUE the BUSINESS so long carried on by the late Mr. FALCONER.

In making this announcement, they have pleasure in stating that they have made such arrangements that the efficiency and high reputation formerly enjoyed by the Firm, will be maintained in its entirety in all its branches, viz.,

GEORGE FALCONER & CO.,

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

NOTICE.

A THOROUGH CORRESPONDENT and ARITHMETICIAN Desires an ENGAGEMENT.

"Activity," care of this Office.

Hongkong, May 1, 1877.

THE Undersigned regret to inform their Customers, that in consequence of the

VERY GREAT ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF FLOUR, they will be compelled TO RAISE the Price of their First Quality BREAD One Cent per Pound, Commencing from the 1st July, 1877.

HONGKONG AND CHINA BAKERY CO., LIMITED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., General Managers.

DORABEEJEE NOWROOZEE,
Hongkong, June 21, 1877.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 72.

CHINA SEA.

Foochow District.

Plaquin Harbour Rock.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned is hereby given that Captain N

THE CHINA MAIL.

No. 4375.—JULY 10, 1877.

Intimations.

AFONG,
PHOTOGRAPHER,
by appointment to
H. E. SIR ARTHUR KENNEDY,
GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG;
and to

H. I. H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS
OF RUSSIA,

Wyndham Street, formerly ATHLETIC CLUB,
HAS on hand the Largest and Best
collection of Views of China, Photographic Albums, Frames, Cases, &c., of
assorted sizes. Ex. S. S. Radnorshire a
supply of very handsome Easel Albums of
Russia and Velvet Covers, assorted sizes.
Illuminated Albums for Portraits, Tobacco
Poucher, in Shape of Skulls, Rats, &c.,
and a nice choice of Gilt Mountings for
Frames, &c.

Hongkong, March 28, 1877.

Not Responsible for Debts.

*Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:*

HANNAH LAW, British ship, Captain R.
Greig.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

HERONIMUS, British brig, Capt. T. A.
Koch.—Landstein & Co.

ROBERT HENDERSON, British barque, Capt.
John J. Gunn.—Vogel, Hagedorn & Co.

BROWN BROTHERS, American ship, Capt.
D. S. Goodell.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MATTHEWS, American ship, Capt. John
C. Dawson.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.

VISCONTI MADOUFF, British 3-m. sloop, Capt.
Capt. Wm. Wright.—Borneo Co., Limited.

CORINNE, British barque, Captain Wm.
Robertson.—Wieler & Co.

JORDAN, Norwegian ship, Capt. P. Hauff.

—Melschers & Co.

LEADING WIND, American ship, Captain
F. M. Hinckley.—Meyer & Co.

CHARLOTTE ANDREWS, British barque, Captain
George Place.—Rozario & Co.

LOUISA, German 3-m. schooner, Captain
H. Scherlach.—E. Schellhaas & Co.

JALO, Russian ship, Capt. C. F. Moberg.
Order.

MARIE LOUISE, German barque, Captain
D. Davidsen.—Wm. Pustau & Co.

MAY, British 3-m. schooner, Captain L.
Plumley.—Olyphant & Co.

ANTIS C. H. HALL, American 3-m. schooner,
Captain C. H. Nelson.—Douglas Lapraik
& Co.

EXPRESS, British bark, Captain Braithwaite.

—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

E. M. YOUNG, British barque, Captain
R. McMicken.—Gilman & Co.

To-day's Advertisements.

OCCIDENTAL & ORIENTAL S. S.
COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by Steamship
GAELIC, are hereby notified that
their Goods are being landed and stored at
their risk in the Company's Godowns at
West Point, from whence delivery can be
obtained upon countersignature of Bills of
Lading.

Goods remaining unclaimed after the 16th
Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. B. EMORY,
Agent.

Hongkong, July 10, 1877.

jy17

PIANO TUNING, REPAIRING, &c.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN Desirous of
having their PIANOS REPAIRED
by the Undersigned, will please oblige with
early orders, as he is about to Return to
SHANGAI.

Orders may be left with Messrs LANE,
CRAWFORD & CO., or Messrs GAFFE & CO.

A. HAHN.

Hongkong, July 10, 1877.

ai10

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOATS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR

SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUZAK,
ADMMAILA, PORT SAID, NAPLES,
AND MARSEILLES;

Also,

PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CAL-

CUTTA AND BOMBAY.

ON SATURDAY, the 21st July, 1877, at Noon the Company's S. S.
ANADYL, Commandant MORSE,
with MAILED, PASSAGERS, SPICE,
and CARGO, will leave this Port for the
above places.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for
London as well as for Marseilles, and ac-
cepted in transit through Marseilles for
the principal places of Europe.

Cargo will be received on board until 3 p.m.
on the 20th July, 1877. (Parcels are
not to be sent on board; they must be left
at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are re-
quired.

For further particulars, apply at the
Company's Office.

H. H. POUCY,

Agent.

Hongkong, July 10, 1877.

jy21

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

July 10, Ambo, British steamer, 17/2,
Brown, Saigon July 6, Rice.—A. MacG.
Heaton.

July 10, Gaelic, British steamer, 17/2,
Wm. H. Kidley, San Francisco June 9, and
Yokohama July 2, Mails and General.—
P. & O. S. S. Co.

July 10, Ulysses, British steamer, 7/2,
Plante, Saigon July 4, Rice.—Orbita.

July 10, Frederick Hay, British barque,
from Whampoa.

DEPARTURES.

July 10, Danube, for Bangkok.

10, Taras, for Yokohama.

10, Peltro, for Shanghai.

10, Alatina, for Shanghai, &c.

10, Brown Brothers, for Pudget Sound.

10, St. Anna, for Newchwang.

10, Hieronimus (brig), for Tientsin.

10, Friedrich Petzelt, for Nicolojefek.

CLEARED.

Corinne, for Newchwang.
Yesso, for Coast Ports.
Ferntower, for Saigon.
Osaka, for Bangkok.
Fleetwing, for New York.
Lone, for Yokohama and Hlgo.
Washi, for Halphong.
Ocean, for Foochow.

PASSENGERS.

Arrived.

Per Guilio, from San Francisco, Messrs
G. B. Emory, and J. Y. V. Shaw, and 133
Chinese.

Per Charlton, from Saigon, 21 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Taras, for Yokohama: Hon. J.
Gardiner Austin; from Marseilles, Mr and
Mrs Pollard, Messrs Israeff and Sabash-
nikoff; from Naples, Messrs Myoshia and
Kavashima.

Per Peltro, for Shanghai: from Mar-
sailles, Col. Lee, Messrs Meyerink and
Sentance; from Galle, Mr. Fowle; from
Saigon, Messrs Michaud and Videau.

Per Danube, for Bangkok, 140 Chinese.
Per Brown Brothers, for Pudget Sound,
7 Europeans.

TO DEPART.

Per Ferntower, for Saigon, 1 European.

Per Fleetwing, for New York, 1 Euro-
pean.

Per Washi, for Halphong, 50 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer Ambo reports:
First part moderate, variable winds and
heavy rain, latter part calm and cloudy.

The O. & S. S. Gaelic, Capt. W. H.
Kidley, left San Francisco June 9 at
noon, had light variable winds to the
Meridian; then fresh S.W. and West to
arrival at Yokohama on the 1st July. Ex-
perienced thick fog off the coast of Japan, and
had to lay for 11 hours waiting for it to
clear off, left Yokohama at 7 p.m. on the
2nd July, experienced light winds and
calms down, arriving at Hongkong on the
10th at 1 p.m. Signalled German barque
Frederick on the 8th inst., in Lat. 25° 27'.
Long. 120° 17' E. July 6th 9.30 a.m. rescued
the crew of six men from a disabled
Liu Kiu junk.

CARGO.

Per S. S. Monas, Hongkong to London,
ailed 6th July, 1877.—184,741 lbs. Canton
Canton, 204,049 lbs. Canton So. Or. Pekoo,
228,257 lbs. Canton Scented Opiate, and
53,445 lbs. Canton Soaps.—Total 655,498
lbs. From Swatow, 25,764 lbs. Olong and
2,242 lbs. Congou. 100 pkgs. Waste Silk,
241 pkgs. Matting, and 284 pkgs. Sun-
dries.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:

For YOKOHAMA and HILO.—

Per LORNE, at 9.30 a.m. To-morrow,
the 11th inst., instead of as pre-
viously notified.

For SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHOW.—

For YESO, at 11.30 a.m., on Wednes-
day, the 11th inst.

For STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—

Per THALES, at 8.30 p.m. To-morrow,
the 11th inst., instead of as pre-
viously notified.

For SAIGON.—

Per FLINTSHIRE, at 5 p.m., on Wed-
nesday, the 11th inst.

For STRAITS SETTLEMENTS AND
CALCUTTA.—

Per VENICE and ARRATOON AP-
CAR, at 2.30 p.m., on Saturday,
the 14th inst.

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.—

The English Contract Packet CATHAY
will be despatched with the Mails
for Europe, &c., on SATURDAY, the
14th Inst.

The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.:—

Friday, 13th Inst.—

5 p.m., Money Order Office closes.

6 p.m., Post Office closes except the NIGHT
Box, which remains open all night.

Saturday, 14th Inst.—

7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.

10 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.

10.10 a.m., Letters may be posted with
LATE FEE of 18 cents extra
to Postage till

11 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.

11.30 a.m., Letters (but Letters only,
addressed to the United Kingdom
via Brindisi or to Singapore, may
be posted on board the Packet with
Late Fee of 45 cents extra postage,
till

11.50 a.m., when the Mail is finally
closed.

Hongkong, July 2, 1877.

jy14

MAILS BY THE TORRES STRAITS PACKET.—

The Contract Packet CATHAY, will be de-
spatched from Hongkong on SATUR-
DAY, the 14th inst., with Mails for

Singapore, Somerset, Cootown, Cle-
veland Bay, Bowen, Keppel Bay, Bris-
bane, Sydney, Tasmania, New Zea-
land, and Melbourne.

Correspondence cannot be registered after
10 a.m.

The Mail will be closed at 10 a.m. Late
Letters, 10 to 11.

Correspondence for Southern Australia can
be sent by this route if desired, but
as a general rule it is better to send
it via Galle.

Rangoon, July 3, 1877.

jy14

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet GAELIC
will be despatched on TUESDAY, the
17th Instinct, with Mails for

Japan, San Francisco, and the United
States, which will be closed as fol-
lows:—

2 p.m. Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 p.m. Post-Office closes.

3.20 p.m. Correspondence for Japan the
United States or Union Coun-
tries only may be posted on
board the Packet with Late
Fee of 12 cents extra Postage
until

3.50 p.m. when the Mail is finally closed.

THE CHINA MAIL.

never be extinguished as long as Turkey holds territory in Europe. For years before the Herzegovian insurrection broke out, the Russians had by means of agents both in Russia and Bucharest, the capital of Wallachia, engaged in fomenting revolutionary outbreaks amongst the Christian population of the provinces of Turkey; their efforts brought about partial insurrections, keeping up a smouldering flame between Turk and Christian, and only requiring official Russian interference to fan it into a vast conflagration. Just to show you that these revolutionary risings were not the results of Turkish rule, I may tell you that the Christian population of Epirus, Macedonia and Thessaly, who were treated in precisely the same way as the other Christian populations in Bulgaria and Herzegovina, have remained perfectly quiet since the Crimean war.

The many petty revolutions in Bulgaria previous to the great one now popularly called "atrocities," were suppressed without much bloodshed, because the rest of the Turkish Empire was then at peace, and the fanaticism of the Mahometan population had not been aroused. But when came the bankruptcy of Turkey, and the imbecility of its ruler then Sultan Hamid, it seemed a fitting opportunity for the Russians to hasten the dissolution of the Empire. Then follow the Serbian and Montenegrin insurrections, and we all know how many, both officers and men of the Russian army (though still remaining, mind you, in the service of their Government), were allowed to join the Christian army against the Turks. From these few remarks it is clear to us then that the war going on now is not the result of a spontaneous national or religious movement, but is due simply to the action of Russia, working for her own ends, on the natural antagonism between Christians and Turks. Turkey could no longer stand by, and see Russia push herself into the very Government of her country, and so refusing to listen to all the proposals made by the other powers of Europe, and objecting to the demands of Russia, has once more without an ally declared war against Russia.

Now come to the military geography of Turkey in Europe, and will endeavour to explain how far Russia is impeded by the great distance she has to pass over between her own territory and her great object in view. We must presume that the object of the Russian army is to reach Constantinople.

There are two strong and clearly-defined lines of defence before that is reached.

The course of the Lower Danube is the first, and 60 miles South and parallel to that comes the second, the Range of the Balkans, the latter strengthened by the fortress of Shumla, and the position that can be taken up by an army acting on the defensive, the line from Shumla to Varna via Pravadi. Between Kicheneff, a large town on the Russian frontier line, and where her army was concentrated previous to her advance, and the Danube lies the provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia, which in Dec. 1861 were united under one Prince and Government, and called Roumania; this province is a Dependent of the Porte, though a strong ally of Russia's. The advance over what might be a great obstacle as such an extensive province as Roumania would naturally be, has of late years been considerably diminished. The railway uniting Kicheneff with Odessa passed on to Jassy, crossed the Pruth at Skuljane and then passed on via Galatz and Bucharest to Giurgevo on the Danube. Now we all know what a great advantage it must have been to the Russians to have found a ready-made railway right up to the very position they wanted to occupy. The possession of this line of communication, which the friendly attitude of Roumania secured, materially alters the conditions of affairs which formerly so hampered and delayed the Imperial Commanders. It enabled the Russians to rapidly and quietly move their invading army, by it their army is provisioned, reinforcements brought up, and wounded sent back. The town of Bucharest is a central point from which the Russian Commander can speedily send reinforcements to the advanced army on the Danube by means of the roads which now branch from it to the Danube, such as from Bucharest to Giurgevo, both by road and rail, also to Olteneitz by a good road and also the river Dembowitz, and as you see on the map, it would take but a short time to send reinforcements even to Kalafat owing to their possession of a railway. The Russian army will have no necessity to leave troops to guard the line of their communications, as the Roumanian army would do that, so we find them arrived on the Danube without any impediment as regards the nature of the country. They leave their line of communications clearly opened in their rear with easy means of making a hasty and regular retreat if necessary.

Now we come to the first serious obstacle to the Russian advance, the River Danube. This river varies in breadth from 800 yards to a mile, is from 60 to 70 feet deep, in many places much less, and the ordinary current runs between two and three miles an hour. In the present day a river is no longer the formidable obstacle it used to be. Our appliances for conveying an army across have much improved of late years, and where a Commander would have hesitated years ago, he would not in the present day. But I must quote the words of a distinguished general of our army, who says "That the Danube possesses more than an ordinary obstacle to an army advancing from the north." I much regret that I am compelled to omit many details that would illustrate its defence, and the natural obstacle it is to an advancing army. The left bank, or that side occupied by the Russia army, is very low and marshy, intersected with water-courses and flooded during the rainy season. You will readily understand the nature of the soil at such a season, when I tell you that in October 1828, when the Russians, after an unsuccessful attempt to take Silistria, raised the siege and retired, and though unopposed, it took 200 men to move a single gun. Another instance descriptive of the difficulty in marching over the country on that side of the Danube. In 1828 the Russians determined and successfully accomplished the passage of the river at Saturnovo, to accomplish what they had to lay down several miles of fascines, to enable them to reach the point where the bridge was thrown across. But you must not suppose that is the present condition of the bank of the river for when it recedes, which it does after the rainy season, it becomes quite practicable for troops to march over, and the Commander in Chief would naturally choose that season to attempt the passage.

The right bank of the Danube on the Bulgarian or Turkish side, on the contrary,

rises abruptly to the height in some places as much as from 200 to 300 feet, and thus forms along its whole course from Widin, which we might assume will be the Western extremity of hostilities to Braila, on the Eastern side, a natural parapet, and thus the Turks find a great natural defences, only requiring art to complete an impassable barrier to the advance of Russian forces. How far they have availed themselves of this advantage I will point out later on.

We now arrive at the Province South of the Danube, Bulgaria. This province, which is a vast undulating plain, is badly cultivated, therefore its local supplies must be scarce.

The only railway existing is that running from Rustchuk to Shumla, thence to Varna via Pravadi. The roads in this province generally are bad, in the rainy season almost impassable, while in summer the heat is intense, and the water is both scarce and bad. And thus the Turks will find more difficulty in keeping up lateral communications with their advance army on the Danube than the Russians. This plain extends as far South as Shumla, which is situated 400 feet above the plain and on one of the many densely-wooded spurs of the Balkan Mountains, a large and now strongly entrenched camp, connected with Varna by the fortified post of Pravadi.

This vast plain would alone be a great obstacle to the advance of a Russian army, as it would find the roads destroyed, heat intense, water, at the best of times, scarce, would be found bad, and thus another enemy than an opposing army would attack them, namely disease. And should they be unable to advance rapidly over this territory, as they hardly could do, harassed as they would be by the enemy, many hundreds of men would fall victims to disease. Look at the Russian army in 1828 when investing Shumla, through disease it lost more than half of its men, and their cavalry horses died at the rate of 100 a day. There is no occasion to look so far back as that; we have only to think how the allied armies of France and England, when encamped on this fatal soil during the commencement of the Crimean War, lost many hundreds by the pestilence. The French in particular, for they were encamped near Shumla, and though military medical science has advanced in the present day equally as rapidly as other branches of military science, yet the Russians, should they get far, must again fall a victim to the fatal climate; so Turkey has this one ally.

We now come to the second line of defence, the great range of the Balkan Mountains. This range is a mass of thickly wooded mountains running East and West, rising from 8,000, to 6,000 feet in height, and is from 15 to 20 miles in breadth. We can easily imagine what a strong barrier this would be to the advance of any army. But I must here quote the opinion of one of the greatest military authorities of the day, Field Marshal Von Moltke, who says "That the difficulty attending the passage of the Balkans lies far more in the paucity and bad state of the roads than in their height or inaccessibility." Now there are seven passes, they are:—

1. Shumla to Karabat, by Jalikavak and Dobrolo, called the Bozaz Pass, very difficult and easily defended (combining fluvial with mountain impediments).

2. The Cheng Pass—From Pravadi, by Kogerikoi and Jenikoi to Aidos—difficult but successfully used in 1828 by General Rüdiger, with the 7th Russian Corps in 9 days. Let me tell you this advance was never impeded. The pass was not defended.

3. The Coast road from Varna to Burgas, taken in 1829 by General Roth with the 6th Corps—now impassable to the Russians as the Turks have the absolute command of the Black Sea. In 1829 the Russians had command of the sea.

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I cannot I am sorry to say draw any comparisons between the present positions of the Turkish army, now drawn up to defend the Balkan passes, and the defence of the same in 1829, and consequently by comparison enable you to see how far the Turks are capable of preventing the Russian advance, presuming she gets so far, as time prevents me. S I must content myself though very reluctantly by simply saying that the passes now are very strongly fortified. Once over the Balkans the advance through Roumelia to Constantinople would be continued along three good roads, namely:—

1. From Karnabat by Bujuk Derbind, or the Grand Passage, to Adrianople, and thence to Icmalburg.

2. Aidos to Kirkl Klesias, and thence also to Icmalburg.

3. The east road.

The only serious obstacle then to be met with after crossing the Balkans is the passage of the defile of Bujuk Derbind, which is difficult, almost an impossibility, and as this commands the Grand Passage to Adrianople, it would be a serious obstacle, to a well defended, to an advancing army, even elated as that of the Russians would be after what would have become a glorious and successful advance. Once at Adrianople, though the Turks would not be come as they did in 1829, panic-stricken and helpless at the appearance of a Russian army so near their capital, and might offer determined resistance to the advancing Russians, yet I think that era the Russian army reach, if they are able, to Adrianople, or even no further than to force the Balkans, the Powers of Europe would then interfere and peace would be signed.

I have now arrived at the last heading of my Lecture. The advance of the Russian army, and what preparations the Turks have made to meet it. I will treat with the latter subject first. I have told you in the early part of my lecture what an active part Russia took in the Servian insurrection, and when from the result, war was imminent between Russia and Turkey the latter took advantage of the armistice, and the time that elapsed between the signing of it and the declaration of war by Russia, in moving all her forces from the Danube, to accomplish the passage of the river at Saturnovo, to the declaration of War by Russia, the Grand Duke Nicholas found himself at the head of 274,000 infantry, 12,800 cavalry, and 245 guns, concentrated at Kicheneff, a town on the Roumantine frontier. An army well equipped in every sense of the word, fine men, fine horses, a force three times as strong as had ever advanced before against Turkey. As soon as war was declared, rapidly and quietly this fine army was pushed forward along the line of railway, and by the road almost parallel to it. Their plan of operations was this. To concentrate nearly 800,000 men on the left

bank of the Danube, in two attacking lines; the advance line was to consist of the 7th, 8th, 11th and 12th Corps d'Armée and the 9th which was originally destined for the defence of the South Coast, this running from Olteneitz to Akerman, was sent to reinforce both the 1st and 2nd lines. The latter consisted of the 4th, 13th, and 14th Corps d'Armée. It will be interesting perhaps if I tell you the component parts of a Russian Corps d'Armée. It consists as follows:—1 Infantry Divisions; 1 Cavalry Division; 1 Brigade of Artillery of 18 guns.

A Division of Infantry consists of 2 Brigades, each Brigade of 3 Battalions each. A Division of Cavalry—One Regiment of Dragoons, one Regt. of Uhlans, one Regt. of Hussars, one Regt. of Don Cossacks.

In all 36,000 men.

So that according to this statement, the Russians ought to have had at the commencement of hostilities had visited what then was the anticipated seat of war, states that there are not more than 100,000 Turks on the Danube, and what is more that the Turkish Commander-in-Chief, himself does not know the strength of his army. But since then the enrolling of volunteers and a system of conscription has been going on in Constantinople, and the contingent from Egypt has swelled their army to a vast amount. Another change in the policy of the Turkish Government has enabled them to increase their army, that of allowing Christians to join. Now do not suppose that these Regiments hastily formed as they are, will be not much better than raw recruits requiring months of training before they take the field; far from it. For every Turk, and more especially those living in garrison towns, are all in possession of arms and well practised in the use of them. The advantage of that policy has enabled them within a short time to increase their army by 200,000 men, and it would be unnatural to suppose that 200,000 Turkswere on the Turkish side of the Danube. Whilst pointing out the strength and position of the Turkish Army, I shall endeavour to give you an idea of the Turk as a soldier, by relating how they conducted themselves in the presence of their enemy, then as now, the Russians, in 1828-9, whenever I get an opportunity. Amongst the many fortresses on the Danube the most important are Widdin, Rustchuk, Silistria, and Brailow, or as the latter is generally called Irmova. The latter stands on the left or Russian bank, while the remainder are on the Turkish side. The two fortresses of Widdin and Rustchuk are strengthened by têtes-de-pont on the opposite sides of the river at Kalafat and Giurgevo. Unlike the Campaign of 1828-9, these earthworks are now unoccupied by the Turks, and they are therewith unable to send out marauding parties to harass the enemy, and also the strong fortress of Brailow is unoccupied by the Turks. The Roumanian Army, which then and hardly now exceeds 30,000 men, undertook the defence of the tête des ponts at Giurgevo and Kalafat, and the earthworks thrown up at Olteneitz to defend the coast line from Ackermann to Olteneitz. For the same reason part of the 14th Corps d'Armée would be up to the active part taken by the Fleet, and the rapid way they appear at the different Russian ports, in some cases, bombarding them, and in others landing troops and successfully attacking the Russian banks in Asia Minor, other times landing troops and assisting in the insurrection of the Circassians against their rulers, and thus drawing off Russian troops from their main army to suppress these risings, and owing to the daring on the part of the Navy, the inhabitants at Odessa and along that coast tremble lest the Fleet should come and bombard their great port, and also their great Naval Arsenal at Nikolaeff. Thus part of the 13th Corps d'Armée have been recalled from the Danube to defend the coast line from Ackermann to Olteneitz. For the same reason part of the 14th Corps d'Armée have been withdrawn to defend the Crimea, and suppress the revolutionary feeling now existing among the Tartars. So we see the original force intended for the Danube has been much reduced.

Now just a few words about the Roumanian Army. The French in particular, for they were encamped near Shumla, and though military medical science has advanced in the present day equally as rapidly as other branches of military science, yet the Russians, should they get far, must again fall a victim to the fatal climate; so Turkey has this one ally.

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NO CHARGE FOR POLICY FEES.

JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.

137, Leadenhall Street, London.

1st January, 1877.

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE.)

CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

CAPITAL £1,000,000 STERLING.

RESERVE FUND, £234,000.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant
Policies against the Risk of FIRE on
Buildings or Goods stored therein, on
Coals in Matankas, on Goods on board
Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Har-
bour, at the usual Terms and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be re-
ceived, and transmitted to the Directors
for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on
first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single
Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-
posals or any other information, apply to

ARNEHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

Agents Hongkong & Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1877.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, Agents for the above
Company, are prepared to grant In-
surance at current rates.